

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES



Hō'ola Nōio

The Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program Comes to Oahu



Beginning June 1st, the Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program will commence on Oahu and the Big Island. The farmer's market features locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables, with each island offering different produce. This program provides foods through a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant, in hopes of promoting local commerce. The specific goals of this program include getting seniors needed produce and nutrients and providing support for local farmers from the Federal government. Since Oahu last held the program in 2006, there has been a growing need by economically disadvantaged seniors for access to local produce.

On Oahu, \$5 vouchers will be made available, and each qualified senior can receive up to \$50 for the year. In order to qualify, seniors must be at or below 185% of the Federal poverty guideline. An amount of \$249,000 in vouchers will be given out to Oahu, with a goal of reaching 4,980 seniors. The Hawaii Foodbank and its partners are offering the vouchers, which will be valid between June 1st and October 31st, 2010.

On the Island of Hawaii, the farmer's market will distribute packages of produce to qualified seniors.

The Island of Hawaii has a community supported agriculture (CSA) program, where local farmers are encouraged to grow more produce than their regular yearly demand. Although the Island of Hawaii will not use vouchers, an estimated \$249,000 of produce will also be available to eligible seniors. Please refer to the table below for upcoming certificates.

To check if you are eligible, see the next page on where you can apply! Sorry, no telephone calls can be accepted; it is on a first-come first-serve basis.

CONTRACT NOTARY PAGE PROCESS TIGHTENS

Service providers: Be aware of critical details that could possibly delay the execution of your contracts! As you all know, it is current standard practice that the Department of the Attorney General (AG) does not allow retroactive contracts.

Until now, the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) was not scrutinizing the document date and the effective start date of contracts. Now, no payments will be made by DAGS if the following instructions are not followed: the document date signed by the notary must be the same as the effective date on the contract front page, and there must be two notary seals.

Contracts without matching contract effective and document dates will require OCS to send these contracts back for resignature with a new later effective start date. This will delay the contract start date.

What does this mean to all our service
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providers? OCS needs to receive the correctly signed contracts, with matching contract effective and document dates and with both notary seals, at least four or five business days prior to the Deputy AGs approval as to foun for sufficient processing time. Generally, at a minimal, at least two days are needed to send contracts to the AGs. Once OCS receives contracts back, the contract first gets reviewed by the DLIR fiscal office. From there, DLIR Fiscal submits contracts to the Deputy AG, only once a day, in the morning. If that time window is missed, it automatically delays the process a whole extra day, for reasons and procedures beyond of our control.

For these reasons, OCS asks our providers to please submit contracts four or five days before the effective date of the contract to ease timely processing and execution.

Are you Eligible for the Seniors Farmer's Market?

To see if you or your family are eligible, Oahu residents can register at:

- Palama Settlement Dining Room on June 3rd, 2010 from 9am - 2pm
- Kamehameha Homes Community Hall on July 14th, 2010 from 9am - 2pm.

Eligibility Requirements:

Age:

- 60 years and over
- Native Americans over 55
- Disabled individuals residing in senior housing where congregate nutrition services are provided

Income:

- At or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for Hawaii

Residency:

- Proof of Residency (i.e. utility bill)

Age and Verification:

Residency, Age and Signature:

- Current Hawaii Drivers License and Social Security Number
- State ID
- Senior ID
- Certified Birth Certificate (Certification of Birth Abroad or Certification of Naturalization)
- Passport

Income Verification:

- Tax returns from 1040: Filing of 2009 or 2010 (adj. gross income)
- Social Security Checks:
 - Dated 2010
 - Dollar Amount multiplied by the number of times you get paid
- Medicaid Card
- EBT card (supplemented with valid ID)
- Pay Check Stub (up to 2 months ago)
- Bank Statements are NOT acceptable